

e-Bugle

Garrett Bugle Internet Edition

Volume 61

February 2014

No. 2



Calendar

Fri., Jan. 24	Pick up <i>Bugle</i> from table in PO lobby; jazz benefit concert, Town Hall, 7:30 pm (see p 3)	Sat., Feb. 8	GP Jams Coffee House, Town Hall, 7–10 pm (see p 2)
Sat., Jan. 25	Town Dinner, Town Hall, 6 pm (reservations required: see p 2)	Mon., Feb. 10	Town Council Meeting, Town Hall, 7:30 pm
Sun., Feb. 2	“Shakespeare in Song” fundraiser for piano upkeep, Town Hall, 2 pm (note time change) (see p 2)	Tues., Feb. 11	Lunch Bunch, Town Hall, 12:30 pm (see p 4); <i>Bugle</i> deadline, 4 pm
Mon., Feb. 3	Monthly yard waste collection; “Safe Routes to School” (SRTS) citizen advisory committee meeting, Town Office, 7:30 pm (see p 4)	Fri., Feb. 14	Film Society, <i>Amélie</i> , Town Hall, dinner 7 pm, film 8 pm (see p 2)
		Fri., Feb. 21	Pick up your <i>Bugle</i> at the PO lobby
		Wed., Feb. 26	(tentative) Citizens Assoc. Meeting, Town Hall, 8 pm: home safety discussion with local police safety officer (see p 2)

Fiscal Fitness

The Garrett Park Town Council met Monday, January 13, before a smattering of observers. With no presentations by residents, the Council proceeded to its only new business—the introduction of Ordinance 2014-01, the Midyear Budget Adjustments. This is a routine financial accounting, done approximately halfway through the fiscal year, to recalibrate the current year’s budget to reflect the realities of life. It’s important because it involves our money, but trust me—it’s pretty boring. In any case, there was nothing that seemed (to this observer) to be hugely startling. You can see it for yourself; the Mayor said it will be posted on the town Web site.

The introduction of Ordinance 2014-01 was unanimous, which means that it will be voted upon in the next Council meeting and, if passed, will become effective 30 days after that.

In the only other substantive agenda item, the Town Manager gave his monthly report. He noted that, at this halfway point in the fiscal year, we are in good shape, with general revenues slightly ahead of projections and total expenditures well within projections. Regarding the Safe Routes to School stuff, he noted that the State Highway Administration is reviewing our draft RFP for the

engineering/design services. We are encouraging SHA to take an innovative approach to the design (see p 6).

On a slightly related note, there are no lane closures scheduled for Strathmore Avenue, and this reporter, despite an exhaustive search, has yet to find any e-mail noting that “it’s time for traffic problems in Garrett Park.”

Randy Auerbach

Green Again

Jean and Michael Starr are this month’s donors for our green banner fund. We appreciate their contribution to the cause. As of now, we are solvent until the start of April 2014. Anyone else like to join in the “greening” of Garrett Park? If so, please make out a check to the Citizens Association for \$45 and mail it to me at Box 98.

Your dues for the Citizens Association are also coming due. You can either pay them when you go to the Town Dinner on January 25 or mail them to Box 456. Dues, which are good for one year, are either \$10 per individual or \$20 per family at one address.

Mary Moyer

February Music (Time Change)

As reported last month, two events are planned in February to raise funds for work on the town's piano. On Sunday, February 2, Barbara Collier and Sue Petito will present "Shakespeare in Song." Please note: this being Superbowl Sunday, the time has been changed to 2 pm. So no matter your views on football, you can attend this program!

Then on Saturday, February 8, from 7 to 10 pm, GP Jams Coffee House will present "The Beatles!"—a 50th anniversary celebration of the Beatles' first concert in America, which took place right here in DC. Sing-along opportunities are promised!

So to help us maintain the piano in tiptop shape, please come to hear live music at the Town Hall (receptions at both!). All donations will be greatly appreciated. Now we just have to hope that a return of the polar vortex doesn't dump snow all over us.

(If you missed last month's explanation, the 7-foot Yamaha grand piano is showing signs of wear, mostly in an increasingly brassy tone and uneven touch. If left unrestored, the sound quality and the "feel" will continue to deteriorate. Luckily, there are some simple fixes for these ailments, costing only a few hundred dollars.)

Amélie for Your Valentine?

The February film in Garrett Park's Film Society 2014 series falls on Valentine's Day, Friday, February 14, this year. With that in mind, a romantic comedy seems the perfect option, and *Amélie* (2001, in French with English subtitles) the perfect film. Not only is it set in Paris, it is a film in love with life and love, and it introduced Audrey Tatou to American audiences. If you saw it when it came out in 2001, after 13 years it is time to see *Amélie* again. If you've never seen it, you are in for a treat.

The film will be shown at the Town Hall at 8 pm. Admission is free to GPFS members and is \$5 per person and \$10 per family for nonmembers.

Dinner is served at 7 pm; it will feature something French and is sure to be special. For menu details, see the poster in the PO in place a week before the showing, or the GP neighbors listserv the week of the showing. Cost for dinner is usually \$10. Water, soda, beer, and wine will also be offered at prices ranging from \$1 to \$5.



Citizen Association News

Last chance! The annual Town Dinner will be on January 25, starting at 6 pm. The theme this year is "This is why we can't have nice things." It's time to spread some stories of things that have gone awry: tales of pets, children, or other craziness that led us to wonder how things went so wrong. To RSVP for dinner, please contact Michael Lutkenhouse.

Future meetings. In February we are planning to host the local police safety officer to discuss home safety. We seem to have had a few break-ins and other incidents in town, so let's see what we can do to protect our homes and families. Watch for an announcement in the Post Office and also on the listserv.

Do you have a suggestion or idea for a meeting topic that you feel would be of interest to the town? If so, please forward your thoughts to Michael Lutkenhouse or send a note to Box 456.

Annual dues. The Citizens Association 2014 annual dues are being collected. The annual dues are \$10 for individuals and \$20 per family. Thank you to all of those who have already paid. For those who have not, please submit dues by mailing them to the Citizens Association at Box 456.

Garrett Park listserv. Our neighborhood is made up of people with a wide variety of backgrounds, skills, perspectives, and experiences. Tap into these resources and stay informed with the Garrett Park neighborhood listserv. The listserv is an electronic forum for neighbors to communicate information about town concerns, safety issues, upcoming events, and recommended services (for example, contractors, lawn care, doctors, and babysitters). The listserv will not be used for unsolicited marketing, and you can unsubscribe at any time. To join, e-mail Todd Harris or sign in at groups.yahoo.com/group/GarrettParkneighbors/join.

Questions or comments for the Citizens Association? If so, please send a note to PO Box 456 or e-mail Michael Lutkenhouse.

The *Garrett Bugle* is a publication of the Citizens Association of Garrett Park, published 10 times a year. Publication of the *Bugle* is supported by member dues. All residents of Garrett Park are members of the Citizens Association. Yearly dues (\$20 per family or \$10 per individual per address) can be sent to Citizens Association, Box 456, Garrett Park, MD 20896.

Citizens Association Officers:
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Vice-President: Sean Conlan
Treasurer: Crystal Lutkenhouse
Secretary: Lori Conlan

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First-class subscriptions cost \$15 (bulk mail subscriptions are no longer available). Letters to the editor can be submitted by mail or hand to *Bugle* staff or by e-mail through the town Web site: www.garrettpark-md.gov/submit-BugleArticle.php. The editor reserves the right to edit submissions for length and clarity. Unsigned letters will not be printed.

Town Manager Notes

Leaf collection. The final collection was made in mid-January. If you still have a few leaves left over, you can either pile them up in a corner of your yard for composting (the Town Office has composting bins available for free), or bag the leaves for the yard waste pickup the first Monday in February (Feb. 3). Please use the paper yard waste bags. If you missed the scheduled Christmas tree pickup, just put your tree out, and we will take it away.

Snow removal. Snow has not yet fallen in any significant amount. However, just a reminder that it is especially important to try to park off the streets when snow is expected so that the town crew can clear curb to curb whenever possible. This will allow for more space to park after the streets are plowed. If you have a special need for your driveway to be open—medical supplies, caregiver services, etc.—please call the office and let us know so that we can see that your driveway is among the first to have the plowed snow pushed aside.

Holiday fund. We thank the many residents who generously gave tips to the Montgomery County Sanitation employees who take away our trash, recyclables, and yard waste. A year-end gift was made to each of the six men, and letters of acknowledgement will be sent to all who gave.

Winter wishes. Best wishes for the New Year from all of us who work for you as town employees—we enjoy working for you and do our best to provide you with as high a level of service as is possible. Suggestions as to how we may do this better are always welcome!

Finally, in these winter months it is often hard for some of the town’s residents to get out. Please try to be particularly alert for a friend or neighbor who might need a little extra support this time of year. If there is any way you feel that we here at the office might be able to help out, please call or drop by.

Gene Swearingen, Garrett-park@comcast.net,
301-933-7488

Benefit for Local Musicians

On Friday, January 24, at the Town Hall, all are invited to a benefit concert to aid two local musicians whose home was destroyed by fire. The Minor Third Jazz Trio (Elijah Cole on guitar and piano, Reuben Dubester on drums, and Murphy Hagerty on bass) will play from 7:30 to 9:30. Come and enjoy the music and refreshments! Donations will be accepted at the door.

Art at Penn Place

This month in the Penn Place Gallery we are happy to welcome new Garrett Park artist Timothy A. Ruane. A graduate of Georgetown University with degrees in English and art, Tim has shown in many places during the last 5 years, including galleries in London, New York, Washington, D.C., Minneapolis, and Turkey. His photography has appeared in the *Washington Post*, the *New York Review of Books*, and many journals. He has an established presence as both a writer and artist in The Good Men Project. You can find his Web page at taruane.wordpress.com and his full résumé in the gallery. His work will be on exhibit until February 1.

From February 3 to March 1, Linda R. Zvo-lenski will be exhibiting in the Penn Place space. Born in Ohio, Linda grew up amongst many farms; her love for animals and the serenity of nature is reflected throughout her artwork. After graduating from the Art Institute of Pittsburgh, she lived in various states and held a number of artist positions, including advertising designer for the highly renowned Strawbridge and Clothiers department store, in downtown Philadelphia. Finally, Linda settled in Braddock Heights, Maryland, where she co-owned an arts and crafts store, “The Snallygaster,” of Middletown, which was open for 31 years.

Linda has been involved in multiple art shows. She has traveled from Paris to the Far East in pursuit of a better understanding of art, but her heart remains drawn to the beauty of the Maryland countryside. These experiences are illustrated by her many paintings of local scenery and farms. Linda has five cats, all loyal watchers and admirers of her creative process.



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Bugle Notes . . . Sweet and Sour

- ♪ The *e-Bugle* is available online the Monday after the Town Council meeting. You can find it on the town Web site.
- ♪ Garrett Park youngsters who want to earn money this year should sign up for the jobs list (babysitting, snow-shovelling, etc.). Call the Town Office (301-933-7488) and leave your name, age, and what you are willing to do.
- ♪ From the PO: be aware that a postage rate increase is coming up. Maybe you should buy those "Forever Stamps" at the current price before the change comes.
- ♪ There was a nice full house at the Town Hall on January 11 for the memorial gathering for Janet and Fred Howard. Their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren were all in attendance for a retrospective of their lives. One little tidbit was mentioned: did you know that a concrete house could have termites? Apparently their house on Argyle and Montrose did. We wonder if Jonathan Howard and his family have faced the same problem since they now live in that house!
- ♪ Cathy and John Rinzel have a new grandbaby: a son was born on December 27 in Brooklyn, New York, to parents Mark and Mandy Rinzel. He joins his two-year-old sibling. Mark is currently a psychotherapist at St. Luke's Hospital in New York City.
- ♪ From the past: "In the winter, there was skating on the 'old creek' where the still water froze early, and good coasting on all the hillsides and streets with no automobiles to spoil the fun. Parents and children alike coasted in either direction from Chisholms' to the Pavilion and the railroad station, and the hope of being allowed to go coasting again after supper in the moonlight gave great zest to getting one's homework finished before dark." —From "Recreation Centers in Early Garrett Park," by Harriet Holmes Defandorf

Senior Notes

Lunch Bunch. Attendance at the Lunch Bunch provides for nutrition and sociability but also some fascinating anecdotes. For example, at the January lunch, Chris Keller shared an interesting story about an encounter in France (ask Chris about his honeymoon if you're curious). The early Valentine's Day luncheon on February 11 may prompt more of the same. Both sweet and red will be on the menu. Come join us!

Remember, this potluck lunch happens on the second Tuesday of (almost) every month at 12:30 at the Town Hall. Dates in 2014 are as follows:

February 11	No July or August lunch
March 11	September 9
April 8	October 14
May 13	November 11
June 10	December 9

Driving help. For residents wanting local driving assistance, please contact our town volunteers.

Barbara Abraham	(S.) Montrose
Randy Auerbach	(S.) Montrose
Melissa Bronez	(N.) Kenilworth
Kathy Chamberlin	(N.) Montrose
Jean Campbell	(S.) Montrose
Kathy Hedge	Cambria
Glenda Ingham	Rokeby
Jane Salomon	Waverly
Veronica Sauvain	Clermont
Jean Starr	(N.) Kenilworth
Nahid Tootoonchi	Strathmore

Please see the list in the printed *Bugle*. It is the *Bugle's* policy not to include names of minor children, private telephone numbers, or private e-mail addresses in the *e-Bugle*.

Please give these volunteers as much notice as possible to best assist you.

The Seniors Committee

Sidewalks Committee

The "Safe Routes to School" (SRTS) citizen advisory committee met in January. We had an update from Gene Swearingen about the Request For Proposal (RFP) that the town will be sending out for engineering bids; right now the RFP is under review by the State Highway Administration. We had a discussion about issues involved in locating the town street right-of-way limits vis-à-vis the existing pavement, important for determining where sidewalks might be located. We also talked about two upcoming walks being planned, one with the Arboretum Committee (early February) and another with the Montgomery County Rainscapes group (in March). We will let you know when these walks are planned.

Our minutes from November and December are published on the town's Web site. Additionally, anyone is welcome to come to our meetings: our next meeting is February 3 at 7:30 pm in the Town Offices.

Please feel free to e-mail us at garrett-park-sidewalk-advisory-committee-2013@google-groups.com.

David Altar
David.Altar1@gmail.com

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"Serving Garrett Park since 2010"

Fred and Janet Howard

We held a memorial gathering at the Garrett Park Town Hall on Saturday, January 11, to celebrate the lives of my parents, Fred and Janet Howard. Fred was born on December 9, 1910, and died on December 18, 2013, in Ann Arbor, Michigan, at the age of 103. Janet was born on April 18, 1913, and died on January 6, 2012, at age 98, in Ann Arbor. They had been married for 70 years and lived as residents of Garrett Park for 59 years.

Although the weather on Saturday was cold, rainy, and appropriately gloomy, the 75 or so people attending the memorial were in a more celebratory mood as we contemplated how these extraordinarily nice and generous people affected the lives of their friends and families.

Fred grew up in Chicago and married Janet in 1941. During World War II, he served as an Air Force bombardier flying missions over North Africa and Italy. His plane was shot down over Sicily, and he sent his life-saving parachute handle to his wife as a Christmas present.

Fred was an expert in early aviation technology and the lives of the Wright brothers. He was a member of the team that edited the Wright Papers at the Library of Congress. He also worked as an editor for scientific and other publishers in Washington, D.C. He wrote three books: *Whistle While You Wait* (1945), an exchange of letters between Janet and himself during the war; *Charlie Flowers and the Melody Gardens* (1972), a novel; and *Wilbur and Orville* (1987), an authoritative biography of the Wright brothers.

Janet also grew up in Chicago. She graduated from Northwestern University in 1935 where she first met future Garrett Parkers George and Elsa Guernsey and Elsa's sister, Nadia Lessin. She was an elementary school librarian for 20 years. She was also active in town activities as a charter member of the GP Swimming Pool (there is a picture of her with George Payne at the swimming pool entrance), Girl Scouts, the GP Women's Club, the Garrett Park Players, and the Book Club. She was a watercolorist and took lessons from Martha Seigel in her later years.

Janet and Fred were also known for the Friday afternoon cocktail parties that they hosted for over 20 years.

Their son John A. Howard was a teacher in Montgomery County schools and died in 1991. They are survived by their daughter Jill Barker and her husband John of Ann Arbor, daughter-in-law Gretchen Howard of Garrett Park, grandchildren Jonathan and Jeremiah Howard and Danny, Ian, and Jennie Barker. They leave four great-grandchildren.

Thank you to all Garrett Parkers who knew my parents and helped them to stay in their home on Montrose Avenue well into their 90's. Thanks to Marian Green for arranging the flowers for the memorial, Grosvenor Market for the delicious food platters, and the Garrett Park and San Diego Howard families for their assistance and support.

Jill (Howard) Barker

What's a Hydrofoil, Indeed?

Did you know that what may be the world's first hydrofoil was spotted in a yard in Garrett Park?

Actually, it was in 1954 that this phenomenon was spotted, according to an article in the first issue of the *Garrett Bugle*, published June 7 of that year, and now preserved in the Garrett Park Archives. "Everybody wants to know what is the queer looking craft" in the yard at 1111 Kenilworth, asked the article, entitled "What's a Hydrofoil?" The swordfish-nosed craft with stub wings and tail, looking like an overweight fighter jet, named the White Hawk, was built in England by former Royal Navy officer Frank Hanning-Lee and was in the U.S. to try to break the world sea craft speed record, which stood at 178 miles an hour. The trials were piloted by Hanning-Lee's American-born wife, Stella. The Hanning-Lees were friends of William Gorman, who owned 1111 Kenilworth, and parked the craft in town while repairs were made. "We bet Mike (Gorman's son) hopes he will get a ride in it when it has been repaired," the *Bugle* opined. We could not find a record of whether Mike ever got his wish.

The Archives are full of curious, fascinating, unexpected, and generally miscellaneous items like this one. Come in when you have a chance and nose around. It could be fun.

Charlie Snyder

2014 Is the Year

... for the biennial Garrett Park townwide yard sale. The sale is planned for a Saturday this spring, with a date to be determined. Start organizing your stuff! (Brought to you by the G.P. Women's Club.)

Caroline Turner



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Letter from the Mayor

The town of Garrett Park owns and operates a substantial amount of infrastructure: buildings, roads, sidewalks, storm drains, street lights, street trees, parks, flowers, and plantings. A major part of the town's responsibilities is to care for this infrastructure—maintenance, repair, rehabilitation, replacement. We are in the midst of our winter tree pruning and removal. In the spring we plant new and replacement trees. This maintains the character of our town and enhances safety from falling limbs and trees as well as improving the reliability of our electrical service. Our Arboretum Committee, together with Phil Normandy, our arborist, and Butch Frost, our maintenance superintendent, determine what work is needed. David Gregg, our tree care contractor, carries out the major pruning and removal, and town staff do most of the plantings. The entire process is coordinated and facilitated by Gene Swearingen, the Town Manager. This is the model for how things get accomplished in our town. Citizen committees work together with town staff and contractors. We are lucky to have capable and dedicated staff, talented and knowledgeable contractors, and most importantly, citizens who are willing to give their time, their skills, and their energy to continue to make this a beautiful, safe, and smoothly operating town.

Last year we completed the work on a new drain and outfall on the north end of Kenilworth Avenue. We have almost completed similar work on a new drain and outfall south of Shelley Court, but due to a design error, a small amount of re-engineering and rework is required (not at town expense). We have awarded a contract for road rehabilitation and repaving in various segments throughout the town. These are pieces of roadway which have been identified as being sufficiently deteriorated that deep patching must be done in some places to save the structure, after which the roadway will be repaved to protect the patch. In other places paving is required to close in previous patches. We are also looking at beginning engineering on roads throughout the town that are in better repair, but would benefit from repaving.

The Town Hall needs a substantial amount of work, including roofing, flooring, insulation, and windows. This is a historic building, and we need to be careful as we proceed to protect the historic character and structure of the building. We will be coordinating closely with our Historic Preservation Committee as we begin to develop a statement of work for analysis of what needs to be

done, and for design and engineering. We are also giving some consideration to potential improvements to Penn Place that might enhance its energy efficiency and reduce its ecological impact. Again, we are dealing with a historic building in which we have already invested substantial sums in a historic renovation, and we must move carefully to safeguard its historic character and structure.

Another major ongoing infrastructure project, with which most of you are probably too familiar, is the proposed sidewalk construction on Oxford and one block of Kenilworth and the replacement of the existing Montrose/Clermont sidewalk. We have developed an innovative flexible design and engineering request for proposals to reflect the concerns and priorities of the town, and are trying to obtain approval from the MD State Highway Administration (SHA), which provides the funds and monitors the project, to proceed with advertising. As for most innovative actions, getting approval generally takes longer. We believe that SHA is supportive of our request, but needs to fit it within its procedures. Once again we will work with citizens, particularly our citizens advisory committee, abutting residents, and the town as a whole as the designer/engineer develops proposals. Because the design is so critical to meet the town's desires and needs, and because we are dealing with a complex approval process with the state for all parts of the project, we expect the design to continue through much of this year and hope that, if the Council votes to proceed with construction, that will occur next year.

We are very busy investing in our infrastructure in order to preserve the special nature of Garrett Park. We thank all of you who contribute to this effort.

Peter Benjamin

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